## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 22, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

President Biden:

On September 9, 2021, you announced a new COVID-19 action plan, responding to the Delta variant surge. Your action plan includes increasing clinical staff support for COVID-burdened hospitals. I write to urge the expedited implementation of your action plan in order to make Department of Defense medical teams immediately available to the State of Georgia, where hospitals face severe staffing shortages.

Your September 9<sup>th</sup> action plan includes "additional support for hospitals facing capacity issues" It states, "The Department of Defense is announcing a commitment to double the number of DOD teams of clinicians deployed to support hospitals battling a surge in COVID-19 cases. These clinicians will be available for mission assignment through FEMA's response across surge states."

I am in frequent contact with leaders at Georgia hospitals who report severe staffing shortages, especially among nurses, as our state continues to battle the Delta variant of COVID-19.

I therefore urge expedited implementation of your plan to make more medical teams available to the states and request an immediate estimate of when such additional clinical support will be available.

I am grateful for your continued efforts to fight COVID-19 and save Americans from severe illness. We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Jon Ossot

United States Senator

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS